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M.L.

PATENT
5181-91401/P6357

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/872,360
Filed: May 31, 2001
Inventor(s):

Title: Distributed Information
Discovery

§ Examiner: Unknown
§ Group/Art Unit: 2171
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-91401

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative


Signature

October 11, 2001

Date

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-captioned case.

03/07/2002 SFORD1 0000002 501505 09872360

01 FC:103 36.00 Please amend the case as listed below.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 14-29 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 6 as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claim is included in Attachment A.

1. (Amended) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein said routing the search query to at least one provider specified by the one or more selected provider registrations

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